

PROTESTANT  
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September 23, 2005

RECEIVED

Utilities Services of South Carolina Inc.  
110 Queen Parkway  
West Columbia, SC 29169

SEP 26 2005

PSC SC  
DOCKETING DEPT.

Attention: Rating Administration  
Ref: Docket 2005-217-W/S

First, I compliment your firm on the improved water quality in the Carowoods area. The improvement in the "looks" of the facilities are appreciated. Service disruptions also appear to be less than the prior operator provided, however - - -

I am dismayed at the size (64%) of the requested rate increase, the brutal one-way communication of the intent to request an increase and the fact that residents are not going to be able to question the increase without great inconvenience (taking a vacation day in order to drive to Columbia and hoping there will be no postponement).

The stated reasons for the increase:

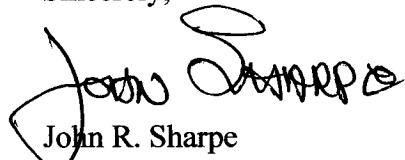
- Provide reasonable and adequate service
- Comply with standards and regulations
- Earn a reasonable rate on investment
- Attract capital for future improvements
- Preserve financial integrity
- Permit continued investment in and maintenance of service

are total open ended on time and money and resonate from Freshman Business 101 – Reports Section. No statement is made as to the time length before another rate increase might be submitted. My net feel is that financial vampires are afoot.

I can only hope that the PSC will ask for justification details. You deserve something but

64% !!!

Sincerely,



John R. Sharpe  
2812 Farmstead Lane  
Ft. Mill, SC 29708  
803/547-4962

cc: PSCSC ✓